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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/AR

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SC-COUP-BAC-O-3 BANGUI

A LIBYAN PLANE WITH SEVER. TONS OF
CAPTURED BY FRENCH TROOPS AS IT LANDED AT BANGUI AIRPORT.
FRENCH MILITARY SOURCES SAID.

BETWEEN 800 AND 900 FRENCH COMBAT TROOPS WERE FLOWN HERE
FROM THE NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES OF CHAD AND GABON, WHERE FRANCE
HAS MILITARY BASES. THURSDAY NIGHT WHEN THE NEW LEADER ASKED
FRANCE TO BACK HIS COUP.

AT A NEWS CONFERENCE YESTERDAY, THE 42-YEAR-OLD PRESIDENT,
A COUSIN OF THE EMPEROR AND A FORMER ADVISER TO THE THRONE,
CONFIRMED THAT FRENCH TROOPS ARRIVED WITH HIM.

THE TROOPS GUARDED A SMALL STUDENT DEMONSTRATION IN FRONT
OF THE WHITE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE TODAY. THE STUDENTS WERE
PROTESTING THE FACT THAT THE PRESIDENT WAS KEEPING THE WHOLE
CABINET AS IT WAS UNDER THE EMPEROR.

THEY CLAIMED MINISTERS, ESPECIALLY VICE PRESIDENT HENRI
BOKASSA'S PRIME MINISTER UNTIL FRIDAY, WERE ALL HIS
"ACCOMPLICES" AND SHOULD BE TRIED FOR CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY.
JULY 1958